Testimony in SUPPORT of S.B. No 383
AN ACT INCREASING THE APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE OF THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT
March 14, 2022

Dear Senator Fonfara, Representative Scanlon, and Distinguished Members of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee,

We are a number of pediatricians in New Haven, CT.

We are writing in **SUPPORT of S.B. 383**, An Act Increasing the Applicable Percentage of the Earned Income Tax Credit. This testimony reflects our own personal opinions.

As pediatricians, we witness firsthand the toxic stress created by financial strain. Roughly one third of New Haven's children, for example, live in poverty. Poverty threatens child health. Families with limited financial means often struggle to afford basic necessities, eat nutritious food, stay physically active, and manage chronic conditions. Poverty increases the risk of developing asthma, obesity, and numerous other health conditions.

The coronavirus pandemic has exacerbated many of the existing social and economic challenges facing families. Now more than ever, it is critical that Connecticut prioritize financial wellness initiatives, such as increasing the applicable percentage of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

Research demonstrates that children raised in families receiving the Earned Income Tax Credit do better in school, are more likely to attend college, and can be expected to earn more as adults. These critical economic investments in young families generate lifetime savings in medical care and social support. They help keep children healthy, and healthy children grow up to be healthy and productive members of our communities.

We strongly **support S.B. 383**, and ask the committee to support and pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
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